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FISHERIES

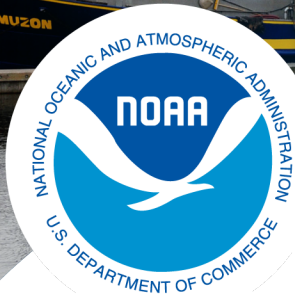
West Coast Region
Sustainable
Fisheries Division

Fishery Management Priorities:

- Groundfish
- Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS)
- Highly Migratory Species (HMS)

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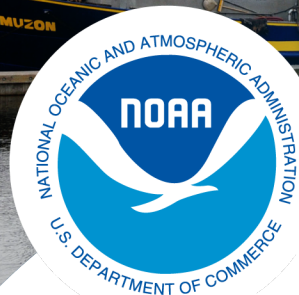
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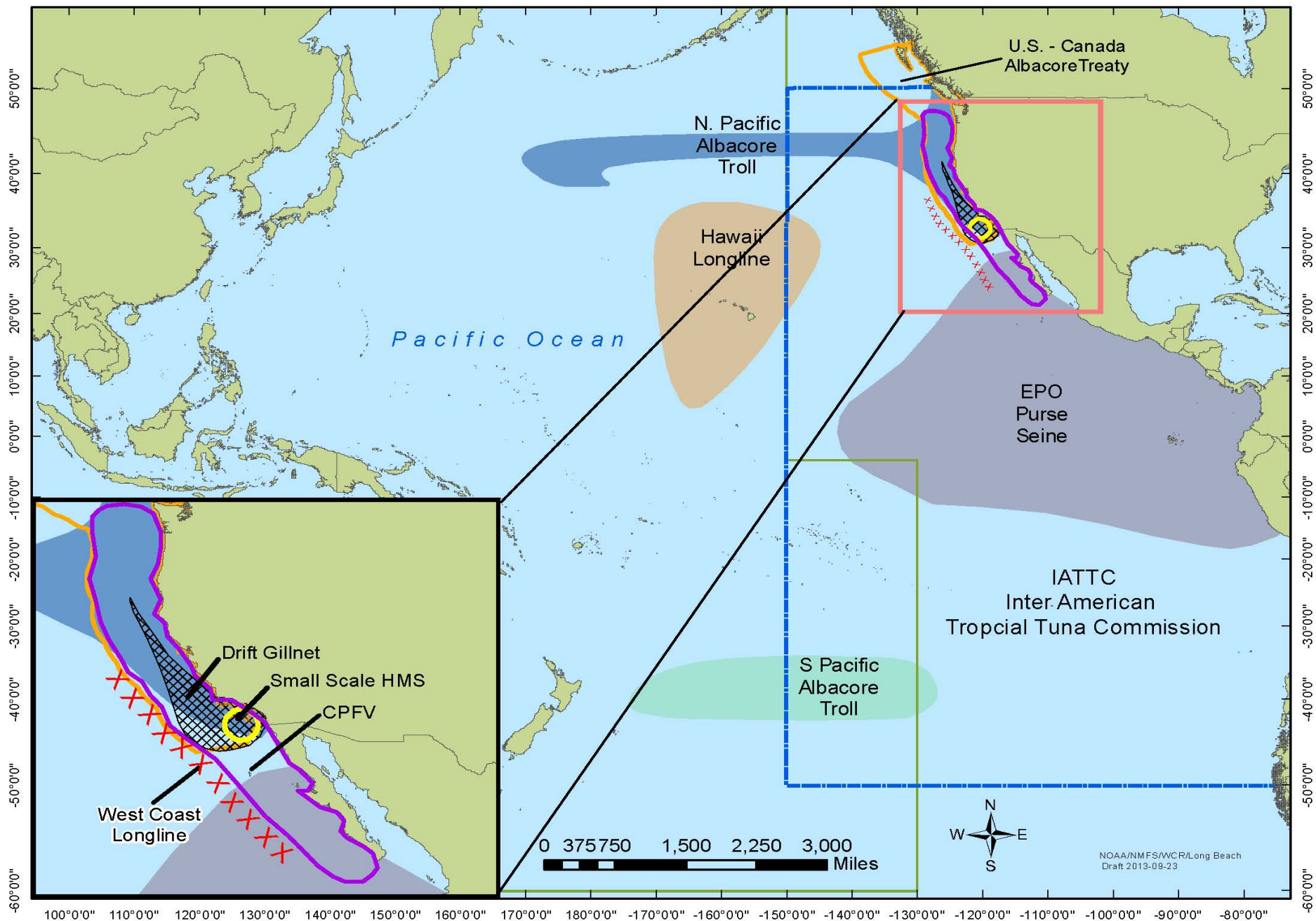


Management Drivers and Partners

- Domestic Fisheries
 - Groundfish, CPS, and HMS
 - Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA)
 - Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC)
 - WA, OR and CA fish & wildlife agencies
- International Fisheries
 - HMS
 - MSA; Tuna Conventions Act; Western Central Pacific Fisheries (WCPF) Convention Implementation Act; US-Canada Albacore Treaty; Pacific Whiting Treaty
 - PFMC; Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission & WCPF Commission
 - Pacific Islands Region

Fisheries of the Eastern Pacific Ocean

100°0'0" 110°0'0" 120°0'0" 130°0'0" 140°0'0" 150°0'0" 160°0'0" 170°0'0" 180°0'0" -170°0'0" -160°0'0" -150°0'0" -140°0'0" -130°0'0" -120°0'0" -110°0'0" -100°0'0" -90°0'0" -80°0'0"



Primary Stocks and Gears

- Groundfish
 - Sablefish, Petrale Sole; Whiting; Rockfish
 - Trawl; pot/trap; hook-and-line
- CPS
 - Sardine, Pacific mackerel, jack mackerel, northern anchovy, & market squid
 - Purse seine
- HMS
 - Albacore; swordfish, Pacific bluefin, sharks
 - Troll; large-mesh drift gillnet; purse seine



Fishery Management Needs

- Setting biennial specs for Groundfish---ACLs
- Setting annual harvest specs for CPS stocks---ACLs
- No annual catch limits on HMS but:
 - Need for reference points for HMS stocks with focus on temperate stocks
 - Input for conservation resolutions at the tuna-RFMOs
 - Annual conservation advice from ISC's working group members and other SWFSC stock assessment biologists for developing U.S. positions on international HMS conservation measures
 - Greater emphasis on shark bycatch -- assessments are lacking
 - Inform US-Canada Albacore Treaty data consultations
- Producing ESA and MMPA bycatch estimates and analyses
- Stock status—essential information to consumers---FishWatch
- Impact of Climate Change on stocks – shifts in location, recruitment, migration timing, prey impacts

Fishery Management Priorities

- Marine recreational fishermen - 5.7 million trips/caught 14 million fish (2012)
 - 95 percent of trips occurred in California
 - Groundfish are key component in fishery
 - Important long-range CPFV fleet operating out of San Diego
 - overfished Pacific bluefin —additional abundance estimates
- Albacore - largest HMS fishery on west coast (\approx \$ 46 M)
 - Important component to recreational fishery
 - Focus on ISC's recommended research needs
- Downturn in sardine harvest -- shift to other CPS (e.g., northern anchovy)
 - Continued efforts to monitor sardine status
 - Total forage base as a complex

Fishery Management Priorities (cont.)

- Continued support for surveys (whiting/sardine is important)
- Non-extractive survey methods
- Cowcod cooperative research
- Potential discussions with Mexico on shared sardine stocks
 - Need for collaboration on research cruises as first step
- Better way to estimate market squid abundance
- US-Canada Albacore Treaty data consultations
 - SWFSC participation on Data and Economic Working Groups
- Providing logbook data on compliance monitoring
- Producing ESA and MMPA bycatch estimates and analyses

Strengths

- Exceptional working relationship between WCR fishery managers and SWFSC scientists
 - Coordination on NMFS reports at each Council meeting
 - Coordination on international U.S. positions
- Providing economic support for management decisions
- Participation on committees
 - Council management teams
 - International committees
 - e.g., International Scientific Committee
- Supporting data needs in response to stakeholder petitions
 - Thresher shark fact sheet
 - Great white shark status determination

Challenges

- Groundfish stock complex reorganization based on productivity/vulnerability.
- Continued SWFSC role in domestic and international stock assessments
- Undertaking research needs identified for improved stock assessments
 - E.g., albacore tagging
- Developing consistent HMS conservation strategies on both sides of the Pacific
- Stock assessments for all CPS/forage base
- Environmental factors acting on CPS populations
- Goal of getting all the 230 most valuable (economically) stocks that comprise the Fish Stock Sustainability Index.
- Climate change impacts to Groundfish, CPS and HMS essential fish habitat

Strategies to Consider:

- Consider “monitoring” recommendations in WCR Regional Recreational Action Agenda
- Initiate CPS stock assessment priorities with international partners
- Develop West Coast and Pacific Islands strategic plan for data collection needs and efforts supporting HMS management challenges
- Conduct routine discussions regarding NMFS management needs and priorities

Questions ?

